"La Billardière mentions an incident which may tend to show that the women were chaste: 'Two of the young girls followed the different windings of the shore without mistrust, at a distance from the other natives, with three of our sailors, when these took the opportunity to treat them with a degree of freedom, which was received in a very different manner from which they had hoped. The young women immediately fled to the rocks most advanced in the sea, and appeared ready to leap into it and swim away if our men had followed them. They presently repaired to the place where we were assembled with the other savages; but it seems they did not disclose this adventure, for the most perfect harmony continued to prevail between us' (II. ch. x. p. 51). Bass thought the men jealous of their women. He mentions encountering a native Tasmanian whose two women, on Bass's approach, ran away, and who, on being requested to show them his hut, assented, but led the way to it with so many stoppages, that they, fearing to lose the tide, parted from him, and returned to their boat. 'The most probable reason of his unwillingness to be their guide seemed his not having a male companion near him; and his fearing that if he took them to his women, their charms might induce them to run off with them, a jealousy very common with the natives of the continent' (ch. xvi. p. 187)."

1: Roth--55-56 (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 548, 609, 831

"...when the aggressiveness of the natives was making the life of the settlers fearfully unsecure, Mr. Brodribb said, 'Fourteen years ago there was a constant communication between the stock-keepers and the female natives, but that did not excite ill-blood in the males; the men would offer to give up their wives for bread; but did not feel indignant at the intercourse they permitted.' But here again the evidence is contradictory. Mr. Robert Thirkell 'found them a peaceful and inoffensive race of people... He never considered it necessary to carry firearms to protect himself against them... Mr. Thirkell considered any injury sustained by the white people was entirely occasioned by their own ill-usage of the females.' The Hon. C. Meredith did not agree with the [56] idea: 'Among the blacks there was no such feeling as jealousy, and it was notorious to the early settlers that the blacks were in the habit of forcing their gins to visit the whites in order to obtain what they could from them' (Papers, etc. Roy. Soc. Tas. Aug. 1873)."